**Providing Social Science Data Services
Strategies for Design and Operation**

Jake Carlson
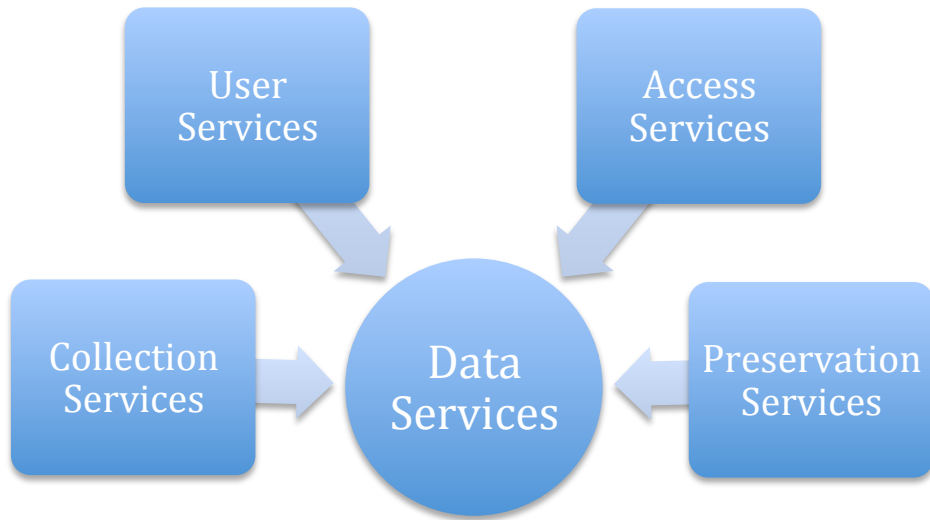Data Services Specialist, Purdue University

Chuck Humphrey
Data Library Coordinator, University of Alberta

Jim Jacobs
Data Services Librarian Emeritus, University of California San Diego

This workshop is being offered for individuals who manage or provide local support services for ICPSR and other research data for quantitative research. Providing access to data has taken on greater prominence over this past decade with the emergence of several new developments, such as, e-Science or Cyberinfrastructure initiatives, the Open Data movement, national and institutional digital preservation strategies & services, data enclaves for confidential data, lifecycle data management planning, and linked-data technologies on the Internet. Given these environmental changes, how does one plan and implement appropriate levels of data service in local institutions?

This workshop uses a functional model of data services based on collections, services, access and preservation. The instructors integrate these functions with identified data activities of user communities. Sessions cover aspects of planning data services through the exploration of local data issues and through computing exercises demonstrating service activities. In this context, fundamental data topics are also covered, including understanding the data reference interview, working with variables, interpreting data documentation, coping with various dissemination formats, accessing different online services (e.g., SDA, Nesstar or Dataverse), searching for social science data, subsetting data using Web-based tools, selecting and downloading ICPSR data, and options for local data delivery. Throughout the workshop, an emphasis will be placed on social science concepts and terminology, as well as on practical solutions to service delivery.

This workshop is organized around four data services functions.

Daily Workshop Schedule

<u>Monday</u>. *Data: the foundations*
- Introductions and an overview of workshop
- Data Services in Contexts
- Social Science Data: Where It Fits Into The Data Ecosystem
- The Research Lifecycle And Data Service Functions
- A data services scan [exercise]
- Homework: Units of Analysis and Variables
- Homework Reading: Chapters 4, 5, 6, 11, 14.

<u>Tuesday</u>. *Collection Services*
- Data Speak And Social Science Methods
- Selection of Collections
- Clarifying a collections request for data from a designated community [exercise]
- Finding a domain and selecting items for collections [exercise]
- Enumerating collection delivery options [exercise]
- Homework: Reengineering Research Outcomes
- Homework Readings: Chapters 7, 8, 10, 12, 16.

<u>Wednesday</u>. *User Services*
- Statistics and Data
- Tracking public opinion: statistics and data
- Data Reference
- Data Search
- Data Search from familiar starting points [exercise]
- Statistical Software, Analytic Software, and other Tools
- Using Online Analysis Tools (SDA, Nesstar) [exercise]

- Homework: subsetting
- Homework Readings: chapters 13, 15, 17, 18.

Thursday. *Access Services*.
- Interpreting Data Documentation
- Data Documentation, Metadata, DDI
- Using Nesstar Publisher [exercise]
- Acquiring data.
- Data Services Environmental Scan [exercise]
- Homework Readings: Chapters 9, 19, 20.

Friday. *Preservation Services.*
- OAIS, TDR and preservation.
- Summary of environmental scans
- Five Year Data Services Planning [exercise]
- Professional Development
- Promoting Data Services

Text
Geraci, Humphrey, Jacobs. *Data Basics: an introductory text*, 2012.